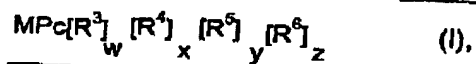


IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An optical data medium comprising a substrate that is optionally already coated with one or more reflective layers and on the surface of which have been applied
- 1) an information layer that can be recorded on using light, wherein the information layer contains (i) a light-absorbing compound comprising at least one phthalocyanine and (ii) optionally a binder,
  - (2) optionally one or more reflective layers, and
  - (3) optionally a protective layer or a further substrate or a covering layer,
- wherein the optical data medium can be recorded on and read using blue light having a wave length in the range of about 360 nm to about 460 nm,  
wherein the phthalocyanine dye corresponds to the formula (I)



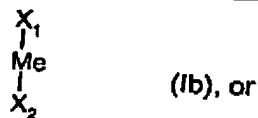
in which

Pc represents a phthalocyanine,

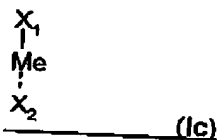
M represents two independent H atoms, a divalent metal atom, a trivalent axially monosubstituted metal atom of the formula (Ia)



a tetravalent axially disubstituted metal atom of the formula (Ib)



a trivalent axially monosubstituted and axially monocoordinated metal atom of the formula (Ic)



with the proviso that when X<sub>1</sub> or X<sub>2</sub> is a charged ligand, the charge is compensated by an oppositely charged ion.

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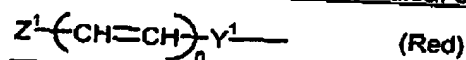
in which

$X^1$  and  $X^2$ , independently of one another, represent halogen, hydroxyl, oxygen, cyano, thiocyanato, cyanato, alkenyl, alkynyl, arylthio, dialkylamino, alkyl, alkoxy, acyloxy, alkylthio, aryl, aryloxy,  $O-PR^{10}R^{11}$ ,  $O-P(O)R^{12}R^{13}$ ,  $-O-SiR^{14}R^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $NH_2$ , alkylamino and the radical of a heterocyclic amine,

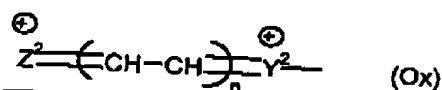
$R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  correspond to substituents of the phenyl ring of the phthalocyanine and independently of one another, represent halogen, cyano, nitro, alkyl, aryl, alkylamino, dialkylamino, alkoxy, alkylthio, aryloxy, arylthio,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_2NR^1R^2$ ,  $CO_2R^9$ ,  $CONR^1R^2$ ,  $NH-COR^7$ , or a radical of the formula  $-(B)_m-D$ , in which

$B$  denotes a bridge member selected from the group consisting of a direct bond,  $CH_2$ ,  $CO$ ,  $CH(alkyl)$ ,  $C(alkyl)_2$ ,  $NH$ ,  $S$ ,  $O$ , or  $-CH=CH-$ , such that  $(B)_m$  denotes a chemically reasonable sequence of bridge members  $B$  with  $m = 1$  to  $10$ , and

$D$  represents the monovalent radical of a redox system of the formula



or



or represents a metallocenyl radical or metallocenylcarbonyl radical,

wherein  $Z^1$  and  $Z^2$ , independently of one another, represent  $NR'R''$ ,  $OR''$ , or  $SR''$ ,

$Y^1$  represents  $NR'$ ,  $O$ , or  $S$ ,

$Y^2$  represents  $NR'$ ,

$n$  represents 1 to 10, and

$R'$  and  $R''$ , independently of one another, represent hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or hetaryl, or form a direct bond or a bridge to

one of the C atoms of the  $-(CH=CH)_n-$  or



w, x, y and z, independently of one another, represent 0 to 4 and the sum w+x+y+z is <16.

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup>, independently of one another, represent hydrogen, alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, or aryl, or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup>, together with the N atom to which they are bonded, form a heterocyclic 5-, 6-, or 7-membered ring, optionally with participation of further hetero atoms, and

R<sup>7</sup> to R<sup>16</sup>, independently of one another, represent alkyl, aryl, hetaryl, or hydrogen.

2. (Original) An optical data medium according to Claim 1 wherein the substrate is transparent.

3. (Original) An optical data medium according to Claim 1 wherein the blue light is provided by a laser light.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) An optical data medium according to Claim 4 wherein M represents

(1) two independent H atoms or a divalent metal atom selected from the group consisting of Cu, Ni, Zn, Pd, Pt, Fe, Mn, Mg, Co, Ru, Ti, Be, Ca, Ba, Cd, Hg, Pb, and Sn,

(2) a trivalent axially monosubstituted metal atom of the formula (Ia) in which Me represents Al, Ga, Ti, In, Fe, or Mn, or

(3) a tetravalent metal atom of the formula (Ib) in which Me represents Si, Ge, Sn, Zn, Cr, Ti, Co, or V.

6. (Original) An optical data medium according to Claim 4 wherein M represents a radical of the Formula (Ia) in which Me represents Al, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> represent halogen, aryloxy, or alkoxy, and w, x, y, and z each represent 0.

7. (Original) An optical data medium according to Claim 4 wherein M represents a radical of the Formula (Ib) in which Me represents Si, X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> represent halogen, aryloxy, or alkoxy, and w, x, y, and z each represent 0.

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8. (Original) A process for the production of the optical data medium according to Claim 1 comprising coating a substrate that is optionally already coated with a reflective layer with a phthalocyanine dye, optionally in combination with suitable binders and additives and optionally suitable solvents, and optionally providing the substrate with a reflective layer, further intermediate layers, and optionally a protective layer or a further substrate or a covering layer.
9. (Original) A process for the production of the optical data media according to Claim 8 wherein the coating with the phthalocyanine dye is effected by spin-coating, sputtering, or vapor deposition.
10. (Original) An optical data medium having a recordable information layer, wherein the optical data medium is obtained by recording on an optical data medium according to Claim 1 using blue light.
11. (Original) An optical data medium having a recordable information layer, wherein the optical data medium is obtained by recording on an optical data medium according to Claim 1 using a laser light having a wavelength of 360 to 460 nm.
12. (Currently Amended) An optical data medium according to Claim 4 wherein M represents a radical of a ~~[[the]]~~ formula (IS).
13. (Currently Amended) An optical data medium according to Claim 1 in addition to the one information layer further layers ~~further including at least one layer~~ selected from the group consisting of metal layers, dielectric layers, and protective layers.
14. (Cancelled)